

MARVEL

#4

DUGGAN
KUDER
SVORCINA

All-New

GUARDIANS of the GALAXY





BLACK SHEEP, SCOUNDRELS, WEIRDOS: PETER QUILL--A.K.A. STAR-LORD--DRAX THE DESTROYER, GAMORA, ROCKET RACCOON, AND GROOT LEARNED TO LOOK AFTER THEIR OWN INTERESTS, THEN DISCOVERED THEY COULD NOT STAND BY WHEN THE UNIVERSE WAS IN PERIL. THEY HAVE NO OFFICIAL JURISDICTION, BUT IF YOU'RE IN TROUBLE (OR YOU'VE GOT A LINE ON A SCORE) IN THE MILKY WAY, YOU CAN CALL THE...

All-New

ISSUE 004

GUARDIANS of the GALAXY



in
"The Trees"

EVEN WITH GROOT STUCK AT FUN-SIZE AND DRAX FORSWEARING ALL VIOLENCE--BOTH FOR REASONS UNKNOWN TO THE REST OF THE TEAM--THE GUARDIANS WERE BATTING 1000 ON IMPOSSIBLE HEISTS...THEN THE GRANDMASTER REFUSED TO PAY FOR THE TINY UNIVERSE HE ASKED THEM TO STEAL UNTIL THEY ALSO STOLE A HUJAHDARIAN MONARCH EGG FROM THE COLLECTOR. THE RISK WAS STARTING TO OUTWEIGH THE REWARD, BUT GAMORA'S AFTER MORE THAN CASH: LONG AGO, SHE WAS RESURRECTED BY THE SOUL STONE, AND SHE'S DETERMINED TO FREE THE PART OF HER STILL TRAPPED INSIDE.

WRITER GERRY DUGGAN ARTIST AARON KUDER COLOR ARTIST IVE SVORCINA

LETTERING VC's CORY PETIT LOGO & DESIGN MANNY MEDEROS

COVER ARTISTS AARON KUDER & IVE SVORCINA

VARIANT COVER ARTISTS RUSSELL DAUTERMAN & MATTHEW WILSON

ASSISTANT EDITOR KATHLEEN WISNESKI ASSOCIATE EDITOR DARREN SHAN EDITOR JORDAN D. WHITE

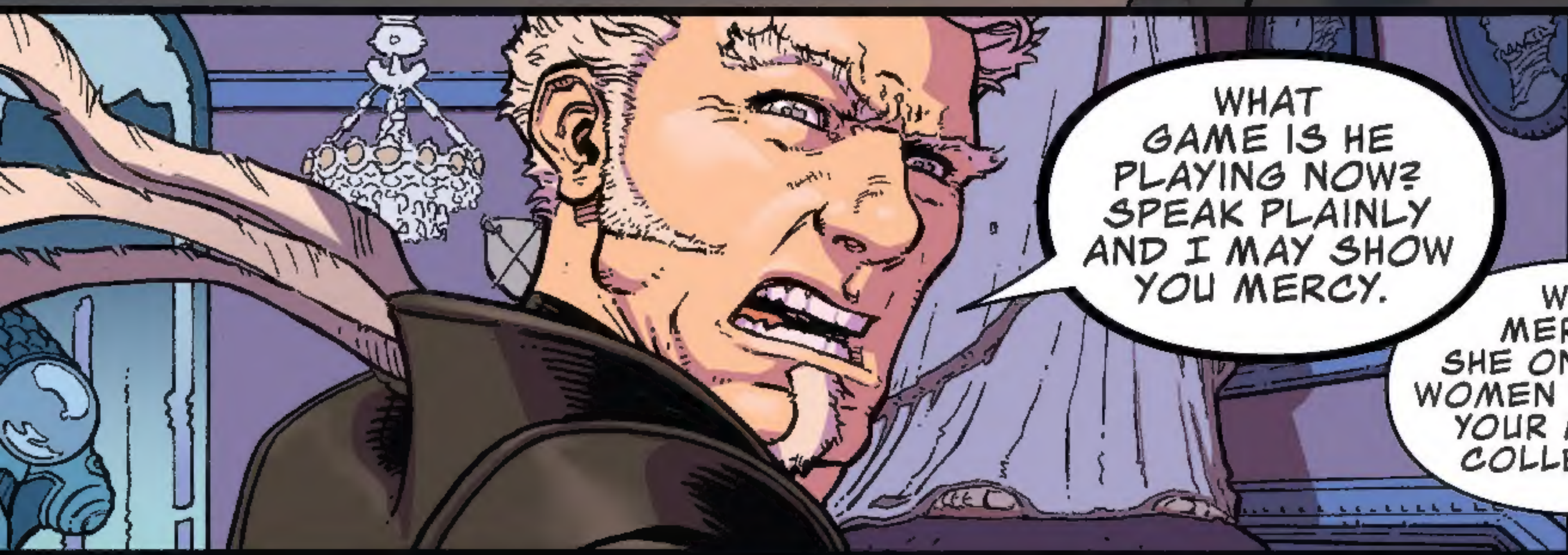
EDITOR IN CHIEF AXEL ALONSO CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER JOE QUESADA PRESIDENT DAN BUCKLEY EXECUTIVE PRODUCER ALAN FINE



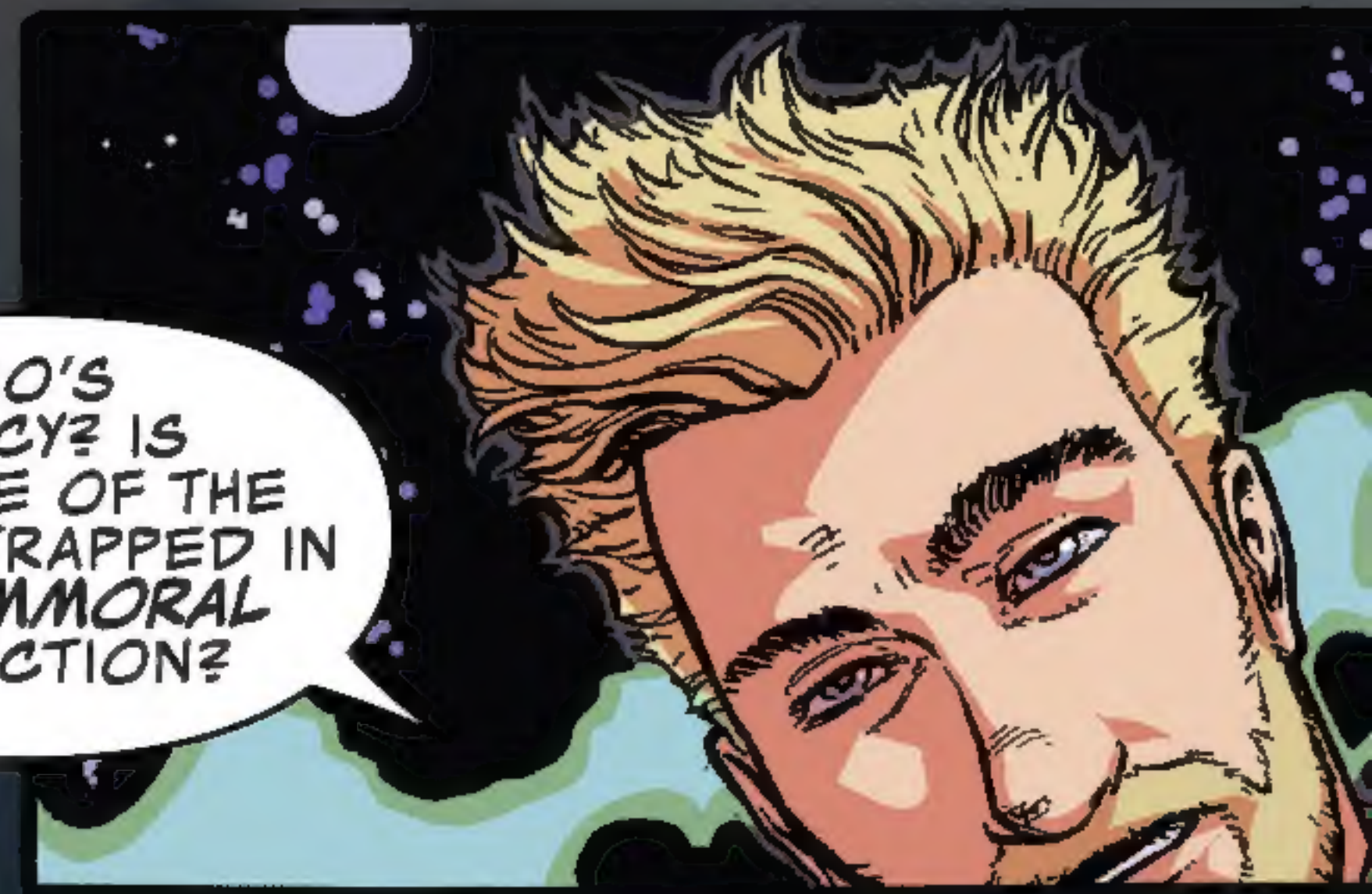
ADMIT
IT WAS THE
GRANDMASTER
WHO WANTED MY
HUJAH DARIAN
MONARCH
EGG.

THE ONLY
GUY I KNOW WITH
THAT NAME IS
GRANDMASTER FLASH
AND HE DOESN'T
GIVE A FLYING--

QUIET,
STAR-LORD.



WHAT
GAME IS HE
PLAYING NOW?
SPEAK PLAINLY
AND I MAY SHOW
YOU MERCY.



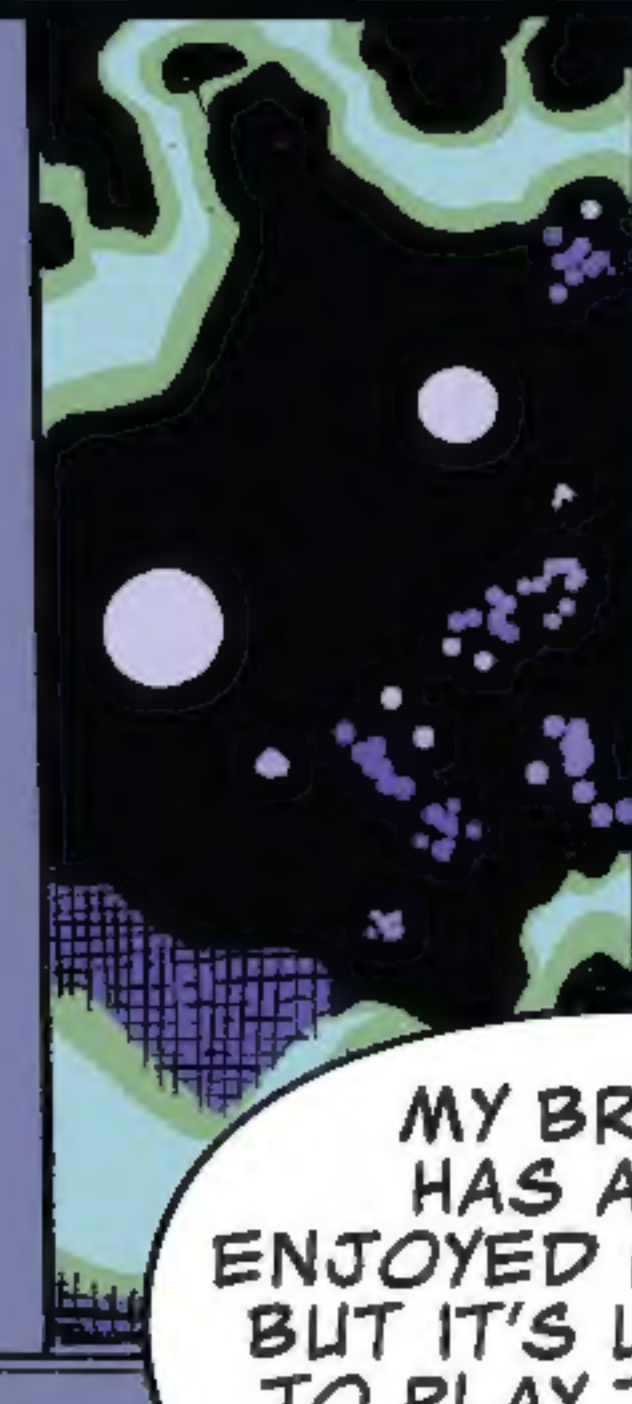
WHO'S
MERCY? IS
SHE ONE OF THE
WOMEN TRAPPED IN
YOUR IMMORAL
COLLECTION?



YEAH,
YEAH, IT WAS
GRANDMASTER.

ROCKET!
YOU NEVER
GIVE UP A
CLIENT.

DOESN'T
MATTER.



MY BROTHER
HAS ALWAYS
ENJOYED HIS GAMES,
BUT IT'S UNLIKE HIM
TO PLAY THEM WITH
BEINGS AS LOWLY
AS YOU.



AH-HA-HA-HA!

YOU CAN'T KILL THE COLLECTOR. HE'S AN ELDER OF THE UNIVERSE.

GOT A QUESTION FER YA, DRAX.



DID YOU NOT SEE ME JUST WET HIM?

DID THE COLLECTOR HAVE A PET **BLACK HOLE** NEAR YOU, AND THE SPACE-TIME IS DIFFERENT OVER WHERE YOU'RE STANDING?



DID YOUR PACIFISM KICK FINALLY ROT YOUR BRAIN?

HE IS SUPER, ULTRA DEAD.



NOW
LET'S LOOT THE
PLACE, SELL ALL
THIS CRAP TO THE
GRANDMASTER
AND...



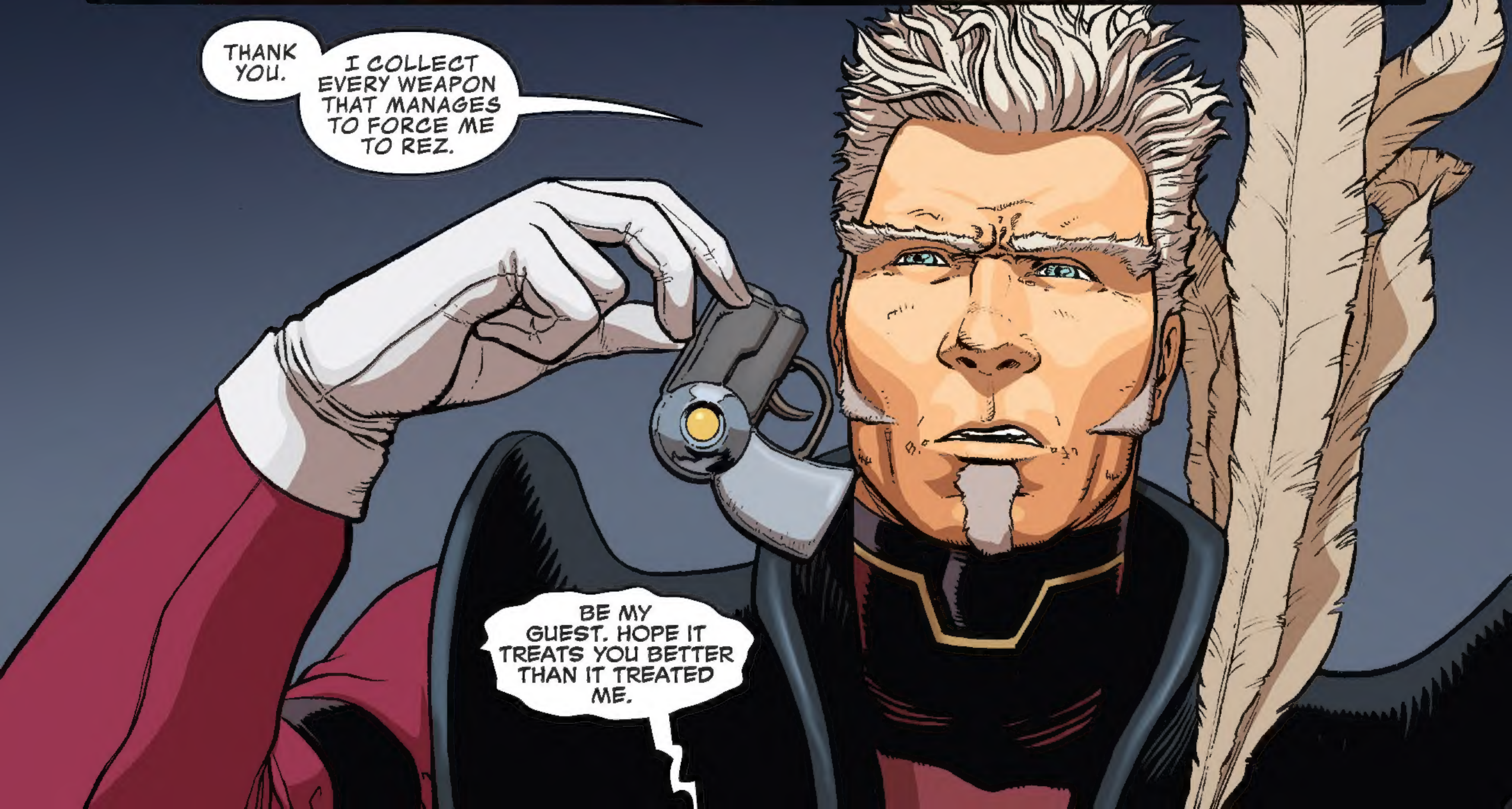
OH, **FLARK**.
HE'S RIGHT
BEHIND ME
AGAIN, ISN'T
HE?

YES.



HERE.

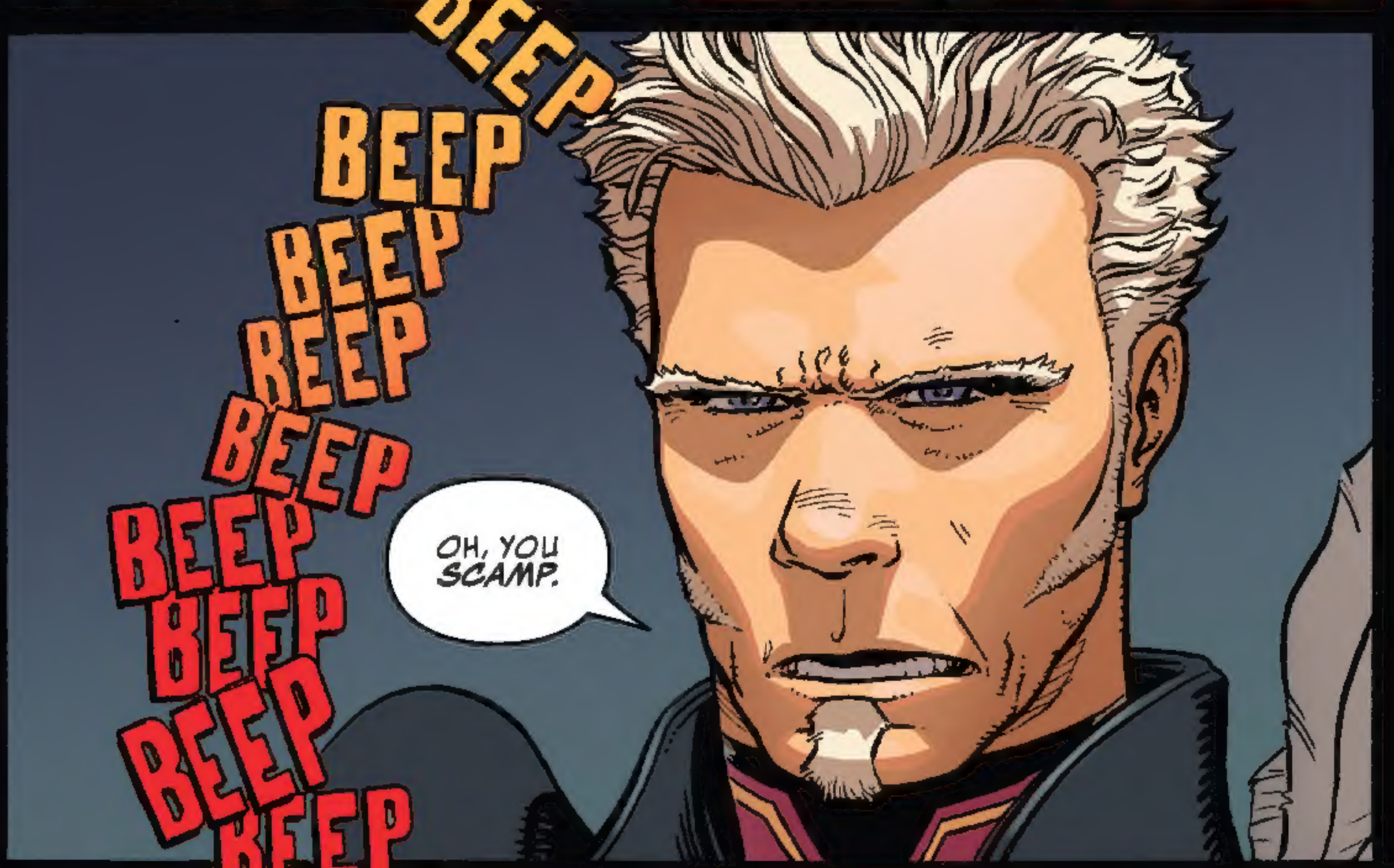
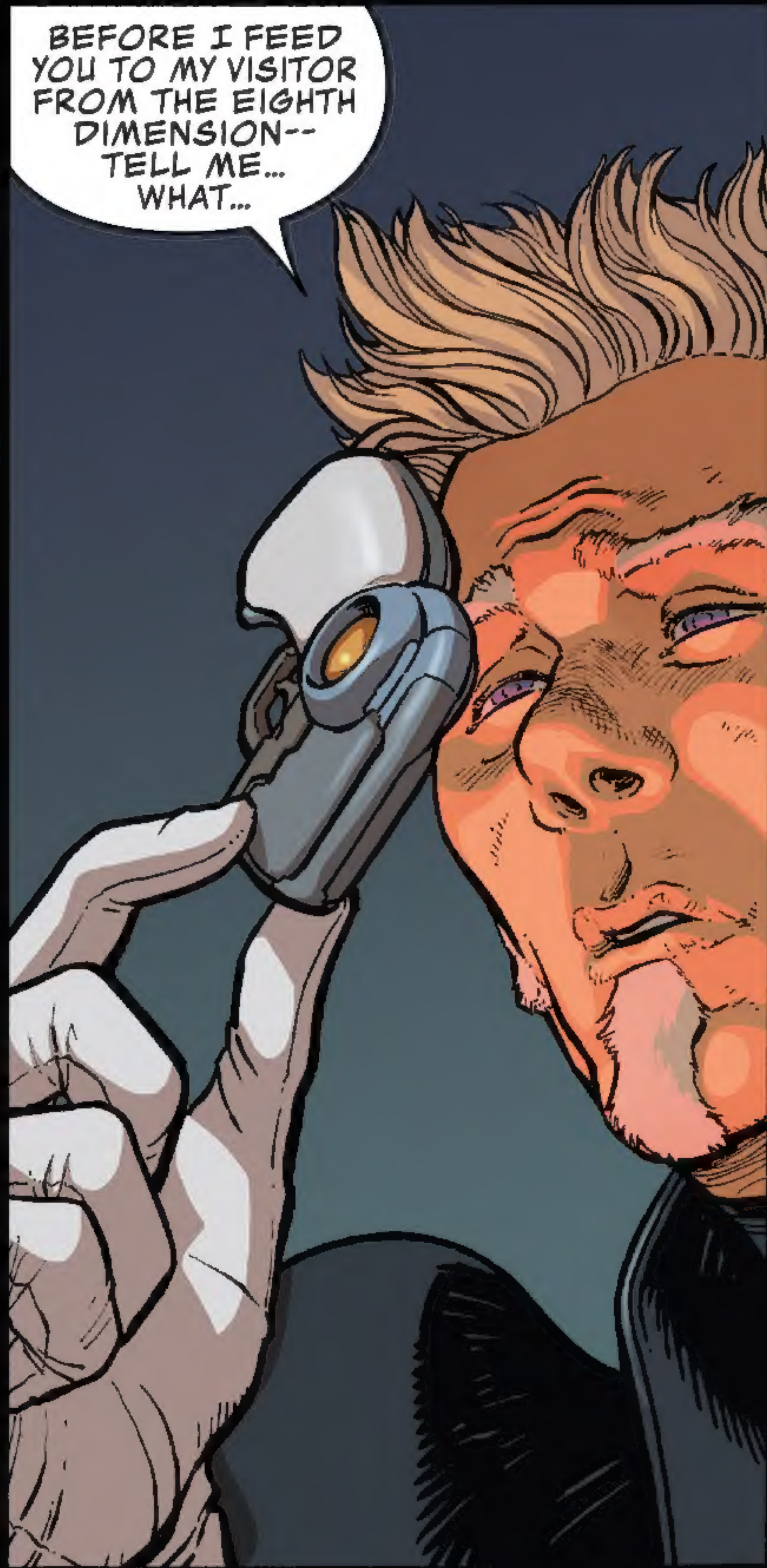
NOW I GET
IT. I CAN'T KILL
AN ELDER OF
THE UNIVERSE.
GOT IT.



THANK
YOU.

I COLLECT
EVERY WEAPON
THAT MANAGES
TO FORCE ME
TO REZ.

BE MY
GUEST. HOPE IT
TREATS YOU BETTER
THAN IT TREATED
ME.



THE CLOSEST
ESCAPE VESSEL
IS THIS WAY!

UH-OH.

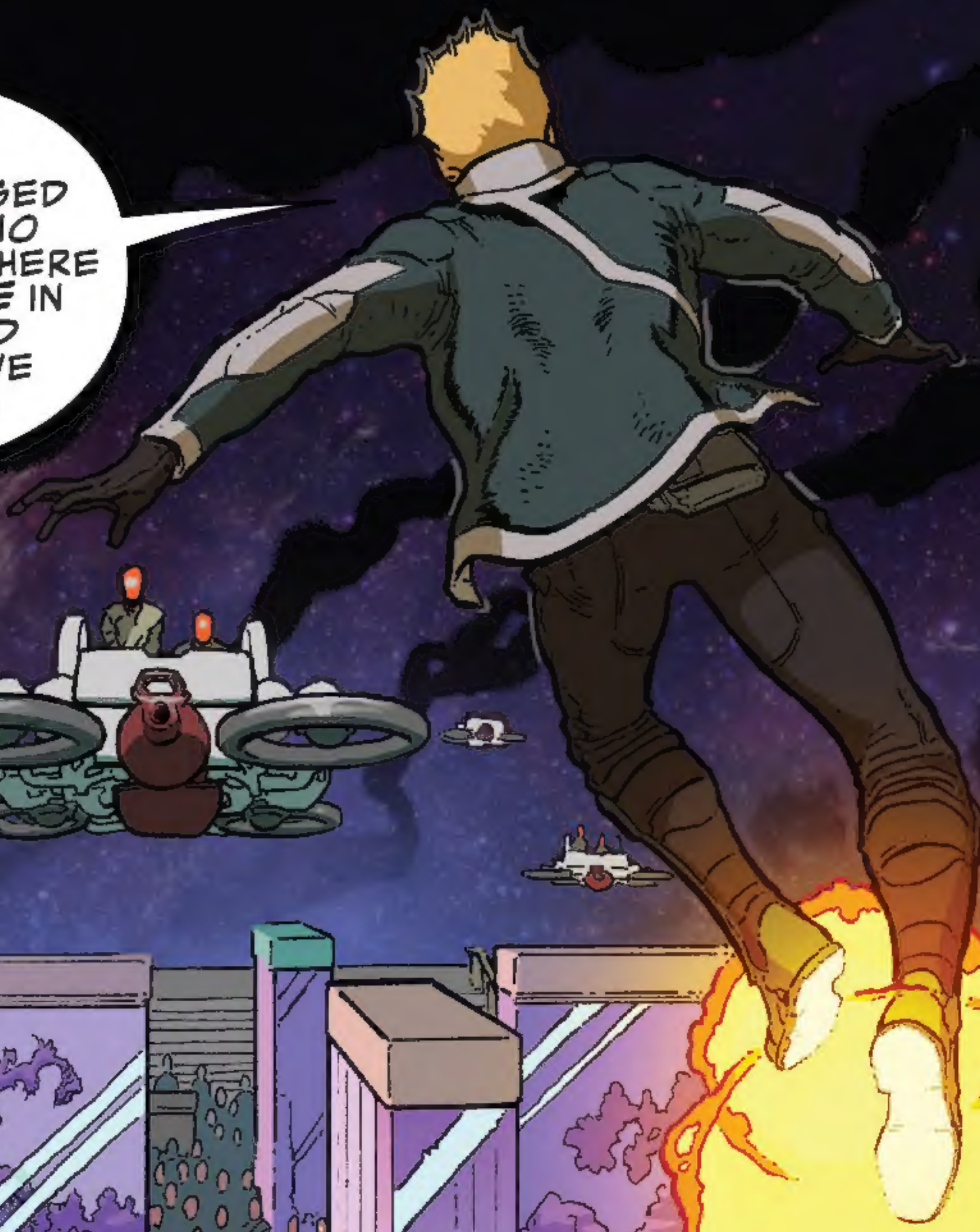
LET
ME DO THE
TALKING.

HEAR ME,
OPPRESSED
WORKERS!

THANK YOU
FOR COMING TO
THIS HASTILY ARRANGED
MEETING. AS YOU NO
DOUBT HAVE HEARD, THERE
HAS BEEN A **CHANGE** IN
MANAGEMENT AND
UNFORTUNATELY, WE
HAVE TO LET YOU
ALL GO.

BUT WE
DO NOT WISH TO
SEND YOU AWAY
EMPTY-HANDED.

PLEASE
MOVE TOWARD
YOUR FAVORITE
PIECE OF CRAP IN
HERE, AND HELP
YOURSELF
TO IT.



HOLY
FLARK, IS THIS
WORKING?

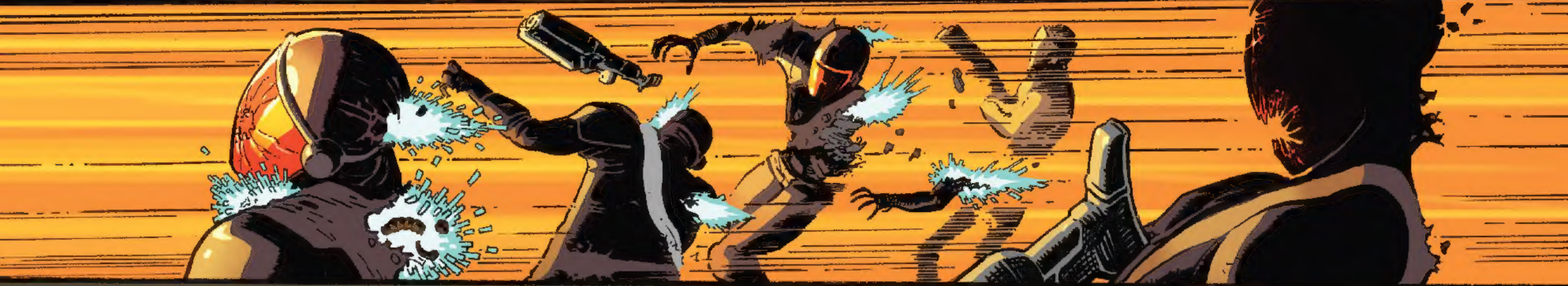
SHOOT
THEM!

NO.

HELL
YEAH!

SOMEBODY
STRAP ME
IN.

WEAPONS



BROG

I HATE
MENAGERIES.
THEY MAKE
ME SAD.

BE FREE,
HIDEOUS
BEASTS!

 CH-OH

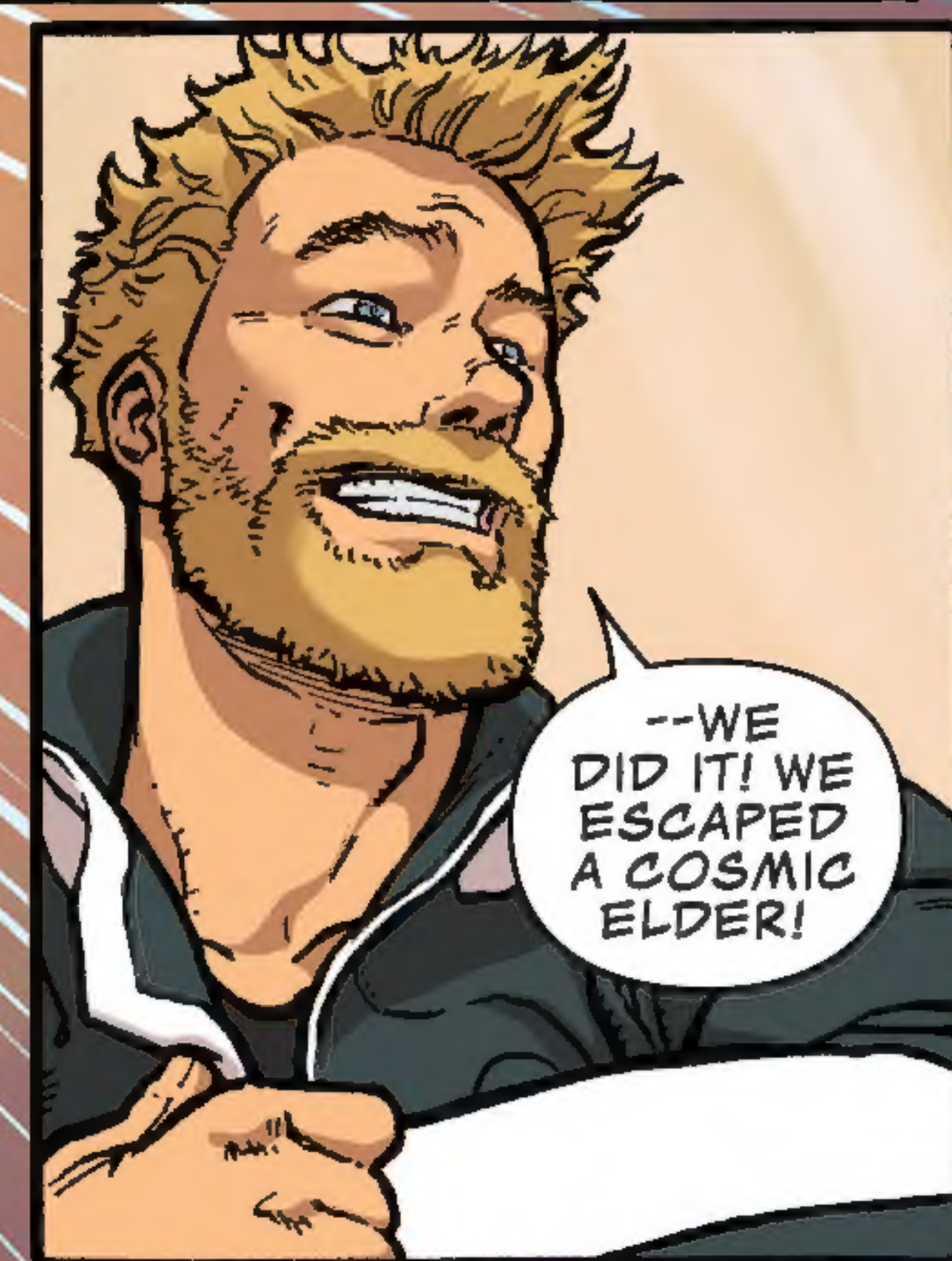
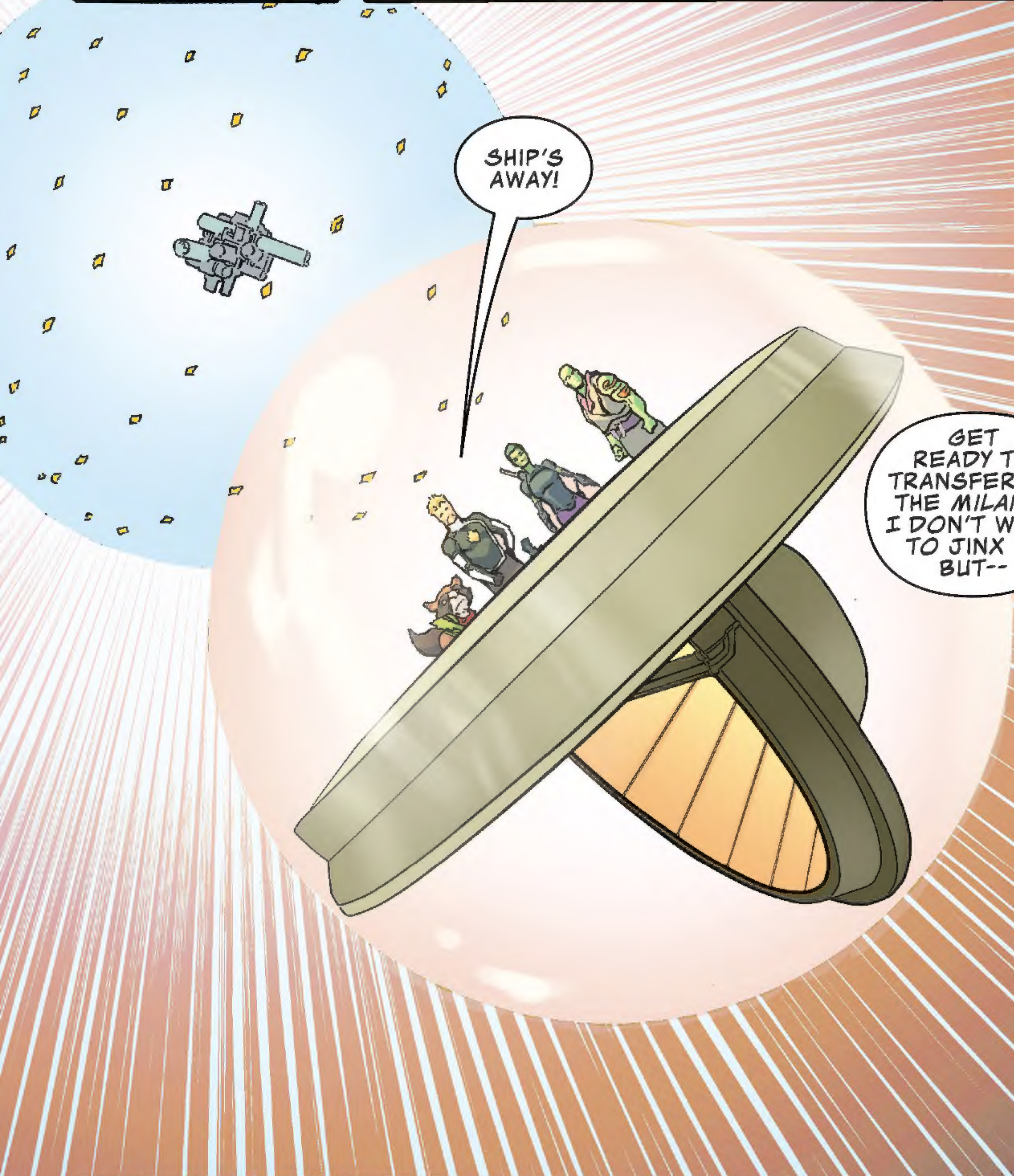
ADAD EEEEEE ZIIII!!!

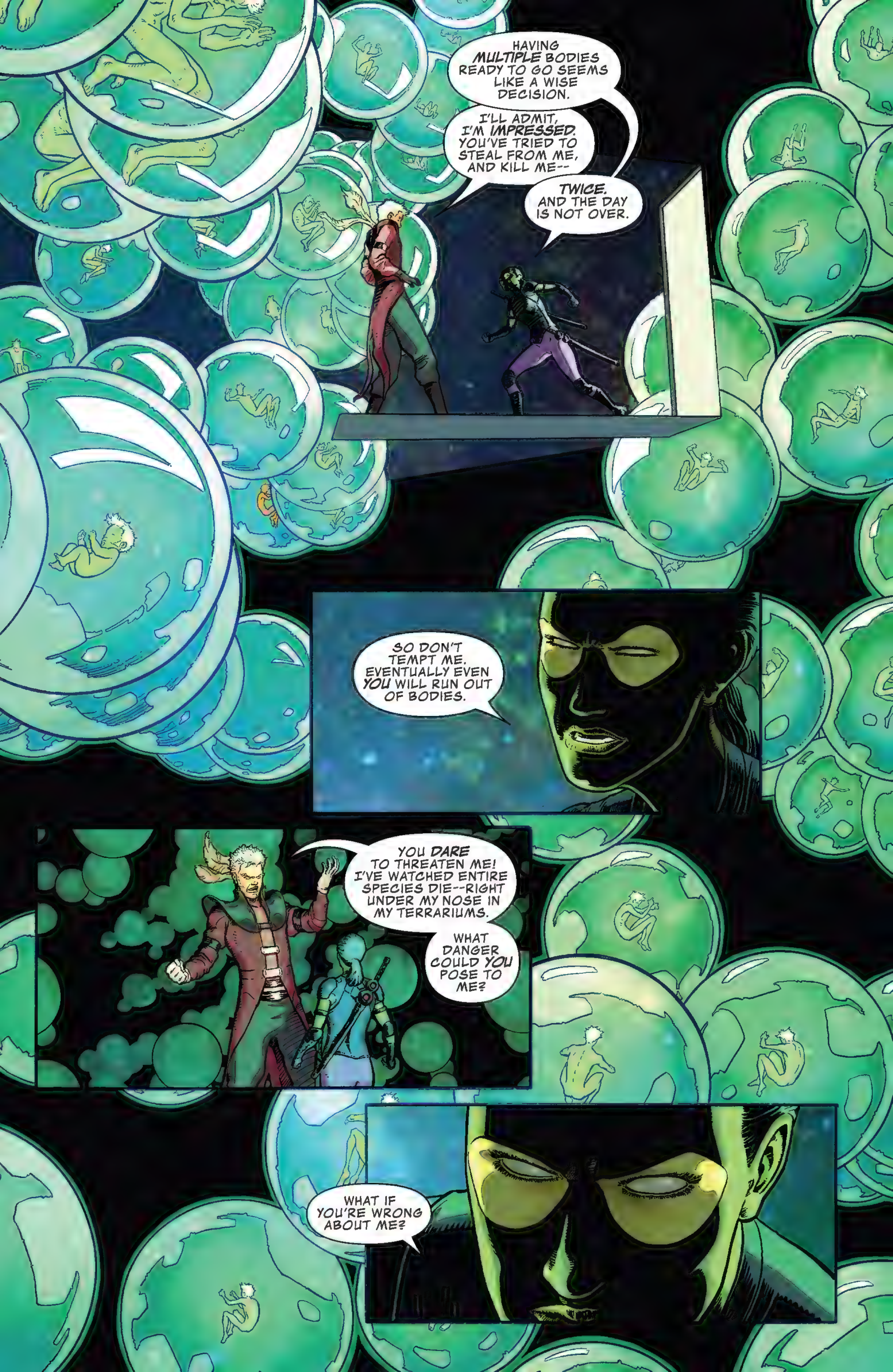
OH, THAT IS **AWFUL**. I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW THAT WAS ITS MOUTH.

**HOW IS
THAT ITS MOUTH?
THAT'S HOW IT
EATS?**

THERE IS
NO GOD.

HERE
WE GO!





HAVING
MULTIPLE BODIES
READY TO GO SEEMS
LIKE A WISE
DECISION.

I'LL ADMIT,
I'M IMPRESSED.
YOU'VE TRIED TO
STEAL FROM ME,
AND KILL ME--

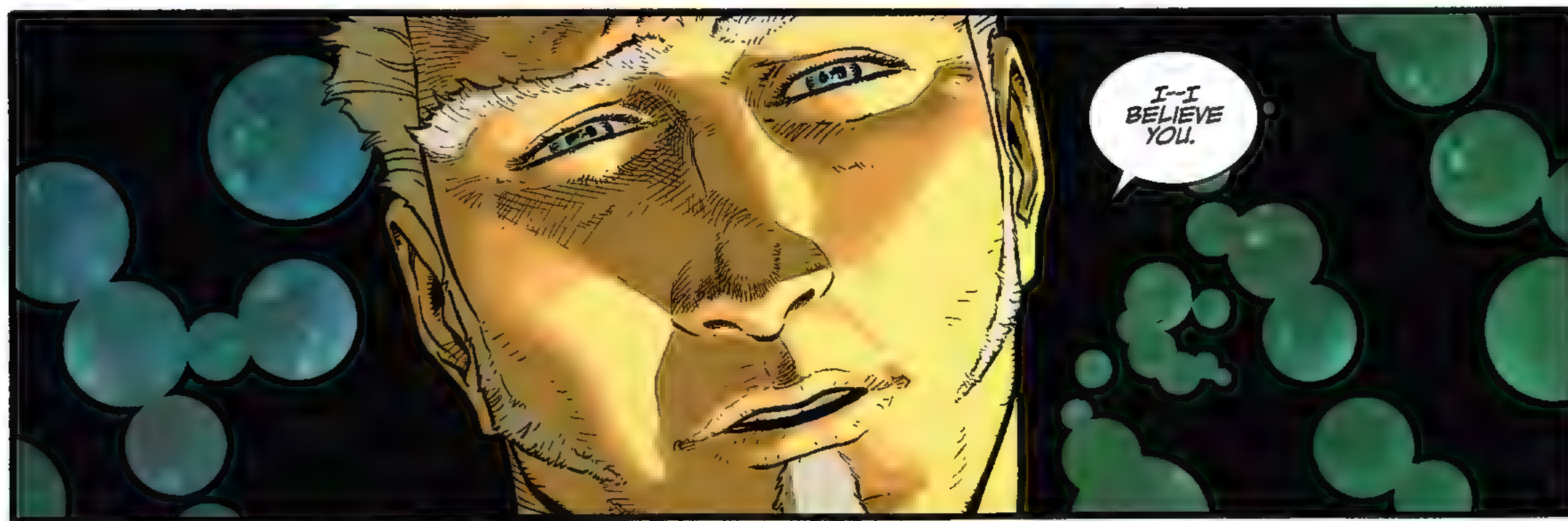
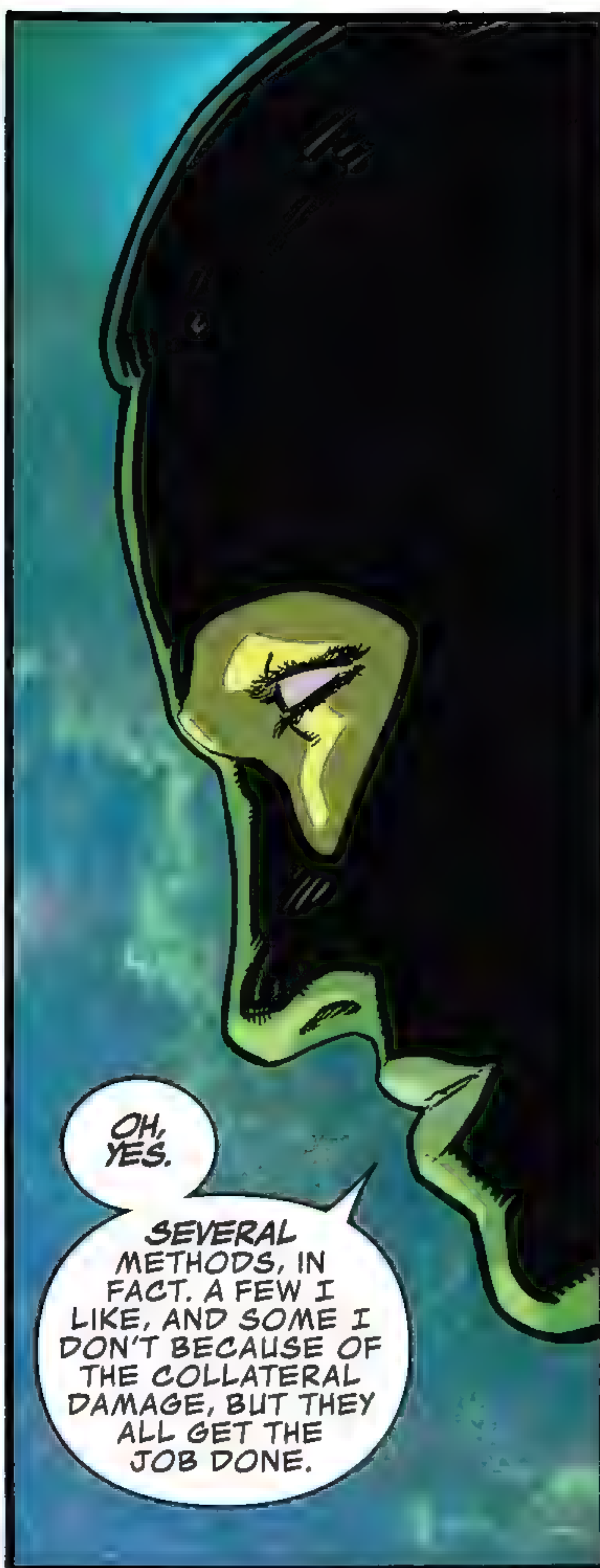
TWICE.
AND THE DAY
IS NOT OVER.

SO DON'T
TEMPT ME.
EVENTUALLY EVEN
YOU WILL RUN OUT
OF BODIES.

YOU DARE
TO THREATEN ME!
I'VE WATCHED ENTIRE
SPECIES DIE--RIGHT
UNDER MY NOSE IN
MY TERRARIUMS.

WHAT
DANGER
COULD YOU
POSE TO
ME?

WHAT IF
YOU'RE WRONG
ABOUT ME?





WHY DO YOU PLAY THIS GAME? WHAT IS IT YOU SEEK?



AN INFINITY STONE.



AH!

SNAP

LET'S PARLEY. YOU MUST KNOW THAT YOU'RE NOT ALONE.

AS YOU MAY OR MAY NOT KNOW, THINGS CHANGED NOT LONG AGO. THERE WAS AN ORDER TO THE UNIVERSE. NO LONGER. SOMETHING HAPPENED. NOW OUR UNIVERSE IS DIFFERENT.

IT'S BEYOND OUR SIGHT. AFTER WHATEVER HAPPENED OCCURRED--THE STONES ARE SCATTERED.

WHAT MAKES YOU THINK I HAVE ONE?

YOU MISUNDERSTAND.

I HAVE ONE TO OFFER. IN EXCHANGE FOR THE ONE I SEEK.

OH MY! YOU ARE EXTREMELY INTERESTING.

AND-- WHICH ONE DO YOU POSSESS, GAMORA?



HMM.
YOU DON'T
HAVE THE *SPACE*
STONE BECAUSE YOU
COULD HAVE
TELEPORTED INTO
MY HOME.

OR PERHAPS
YOU KNOW THE
LOCATION OF ONE,
BUT YOU DON'T
POSSESS IT.

OR
PERHAPS I'M
BLUFFING.

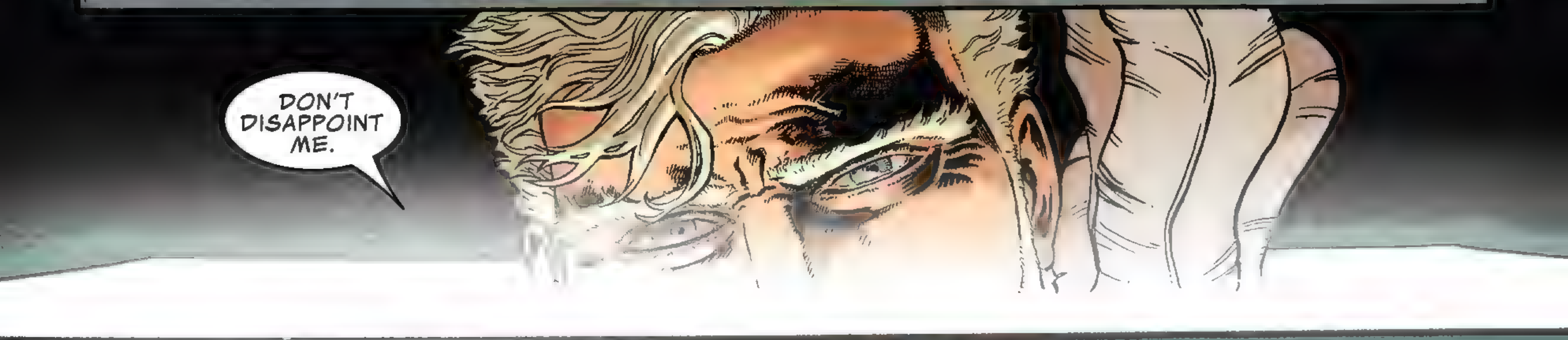
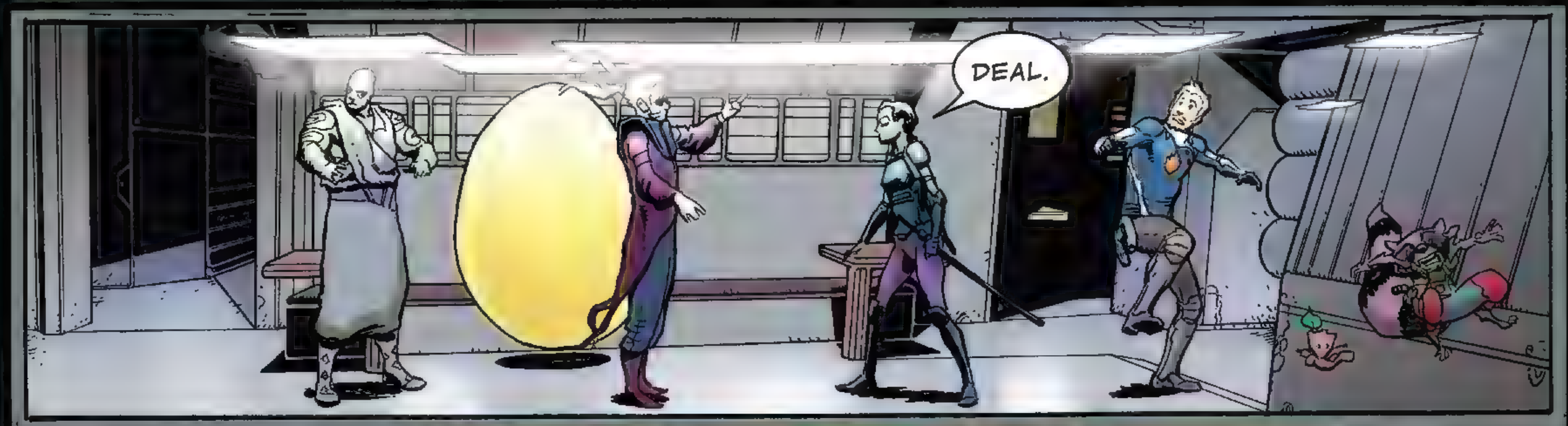
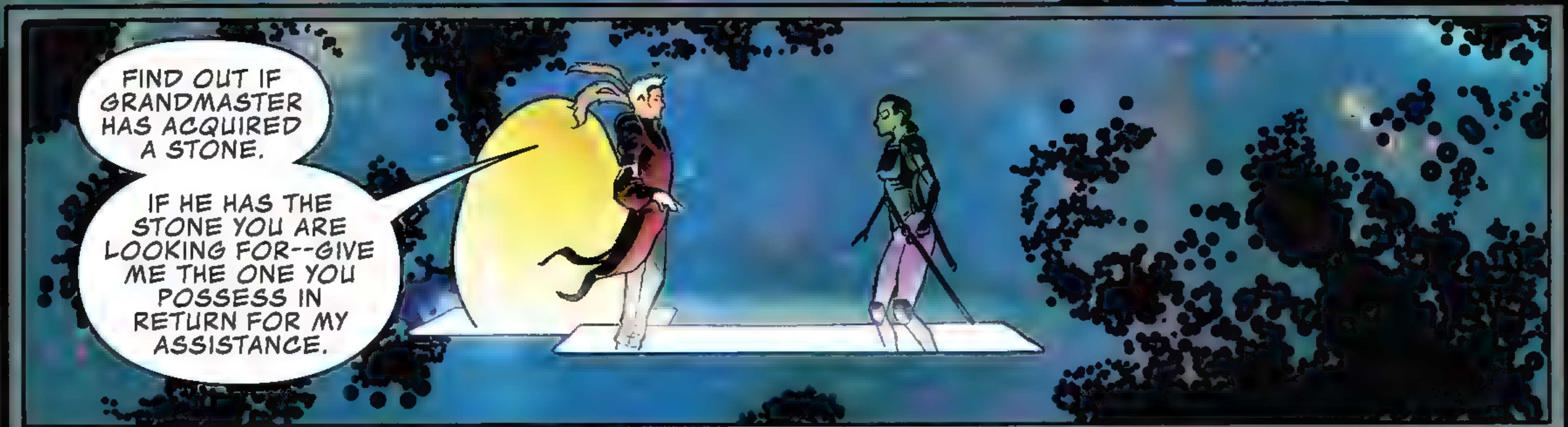
I KNOW
YOU DON'T HAVE
ONE. IT WOULD HAVE
BEEN THE CENTERPIECE
OF YOUR COLLECTION.
YOU WOULDN'T BE
ABLE TO HELP
YOURSELF.

I'M NOT
SURE ABOUT THE
GRANDMASTER.
HIS COLLECTION
WAS BIGGER.

HE
HAS MORE
CRAP.



MY BROTHER
WANTS TO PLAY A
GAME, YOU WANT TO
PLAY A GAME... FINE!
I WANT TO PLAY
A GAME.



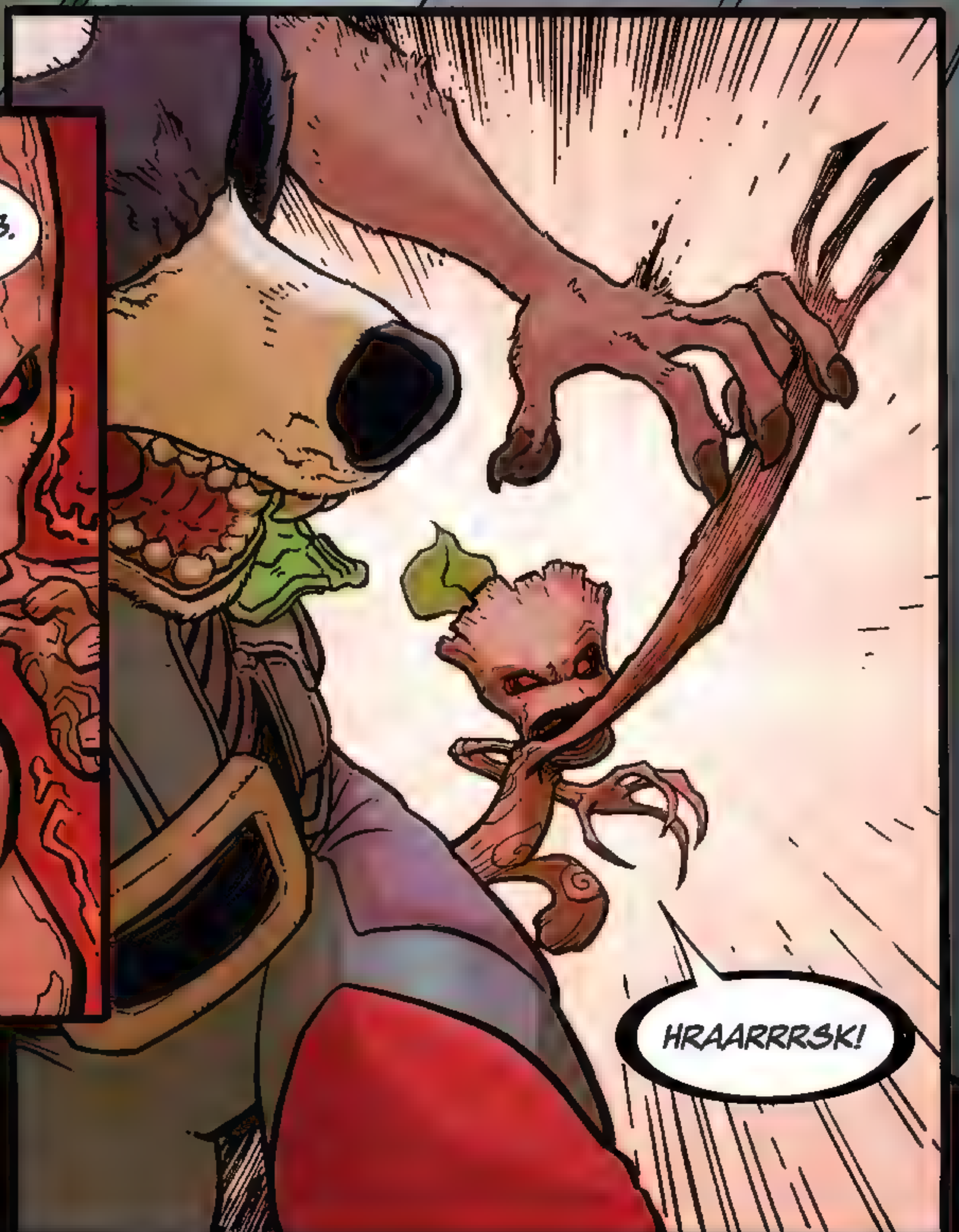


THAT'S NOT TRUE. I NOW KNOW THAT THE COLLECTOR DOESN'T HAVE WHAT I AM LOOKING FOR.

THAT IS VALUABLE KNOWLEDGE.

YOU SHOULD TELL THEM EVERYTHING.

WELL, WHY DON'T YOU TELL US?





AFTER
ALL I DID
FER YOU.



YOU DON'T
THINK I FEEL
BAD ENOUGH--
YOU ALMOST
DYIN'?



FORGET
IT. AND
FORGET ALL
OF YOU.

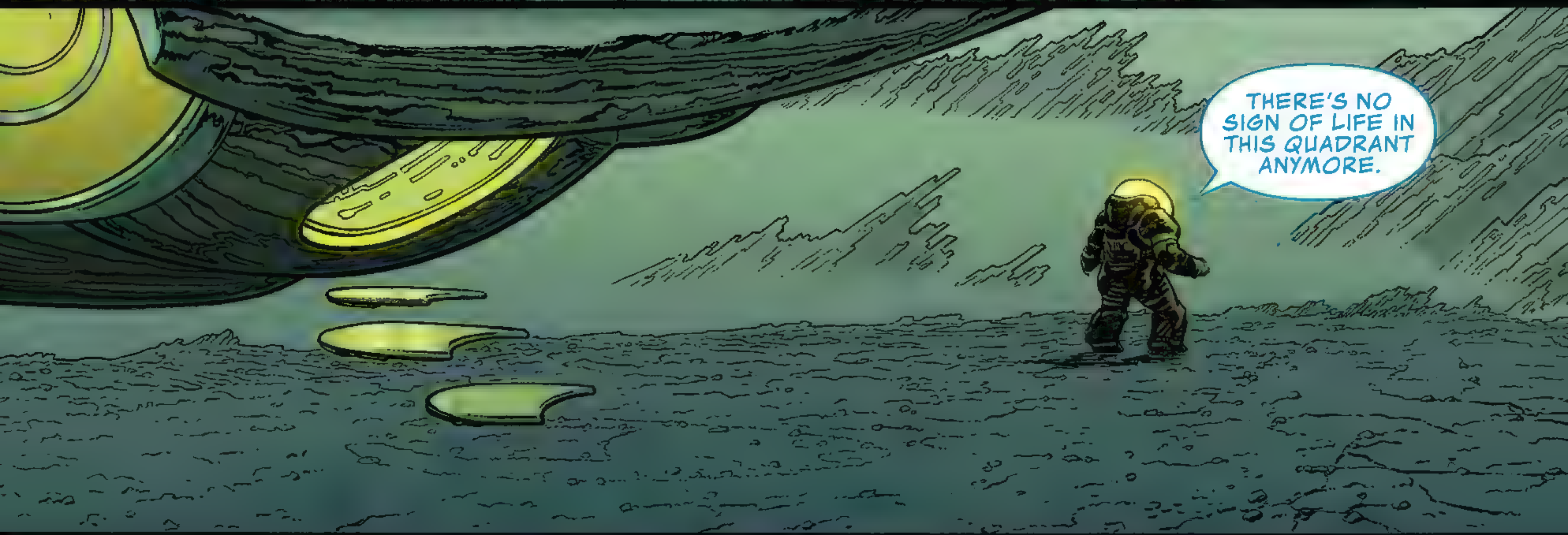


I AM
GROOT?

"CAPTAIN'S LOG:
I RECEIVED A
DISTRESS SIGNAL..."



...AND HAVE
REDIRECTED
TO THIS
PLANET.

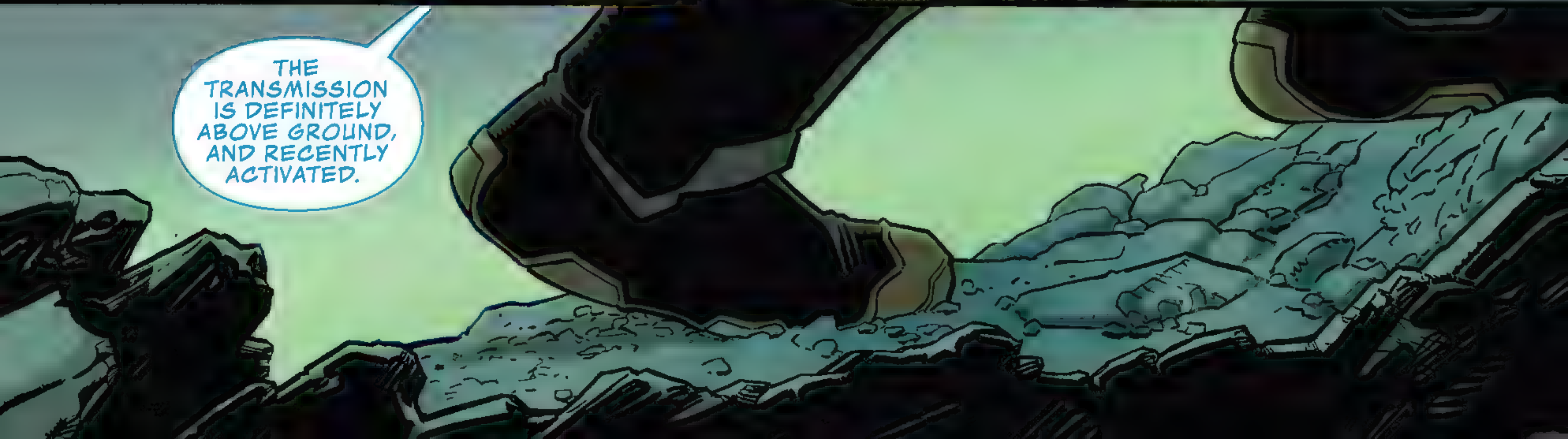


THERE'S NO
SIGN OF LIFE IN
THIS QUADRANT
ANYMORE.

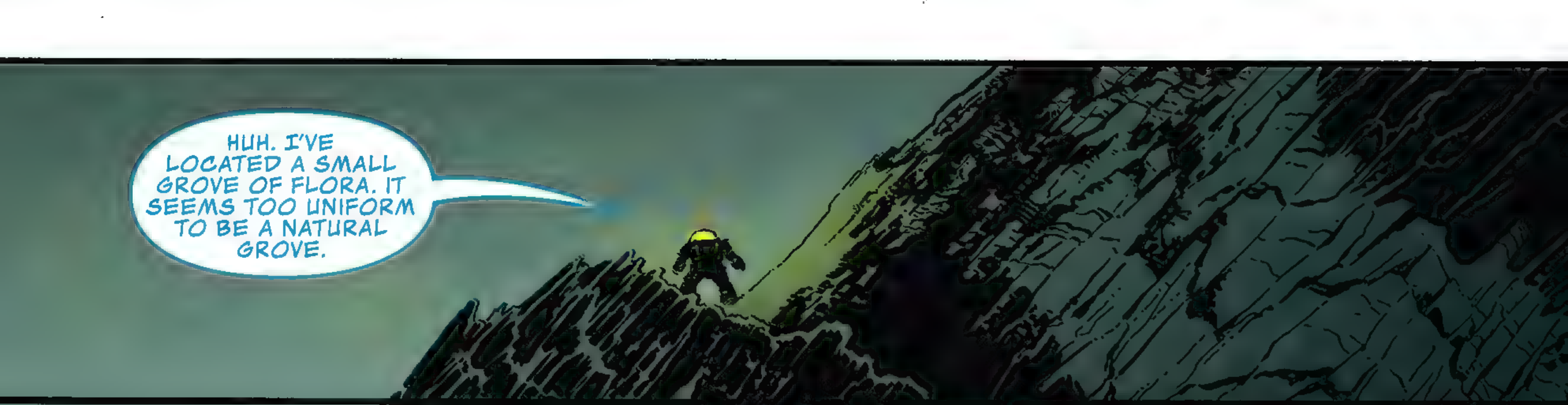


NOT AFTER
THE ANNIHILATION
WAVE PLOWED
THROUGH HERE.


NONETHELESS,
I'M OBLIGATED TO
INVESTIGATE.




THE
TRANSMISSION
IS DEFINITELY
ABOVE GROUND,
AND RECENTLY
ACTIVATED.



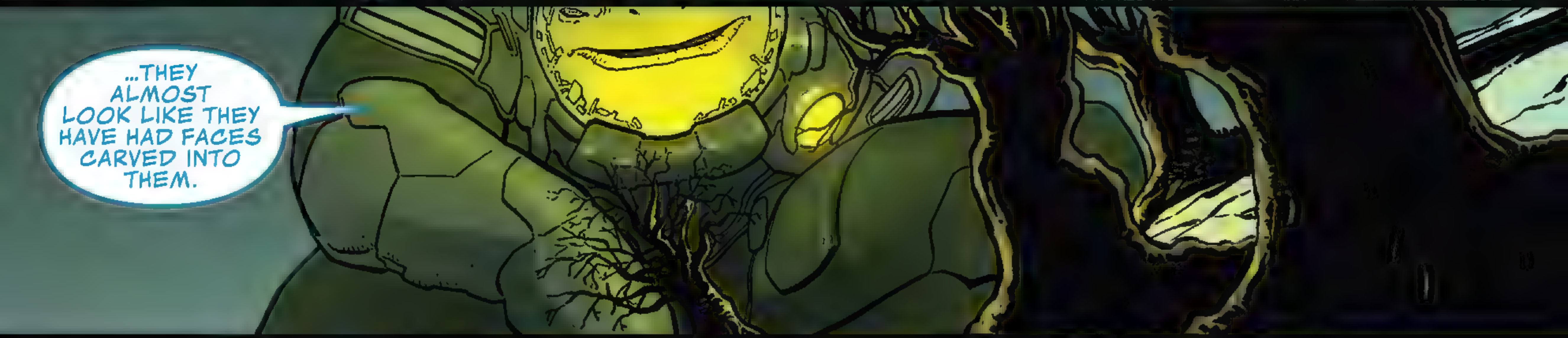
HUH. I'VE
LOCATED A SMALL
GROVE OF FLORA. IT
SEEMS TOO UNIFORM
TO BE A NATURAL
GROVE.



PERHAPS
CASTAWAYS HAVE
MANAGED TO
COLONIZE THIS
PLANETOID?



WHAT
THE--SOME
OF THESE
TREES...



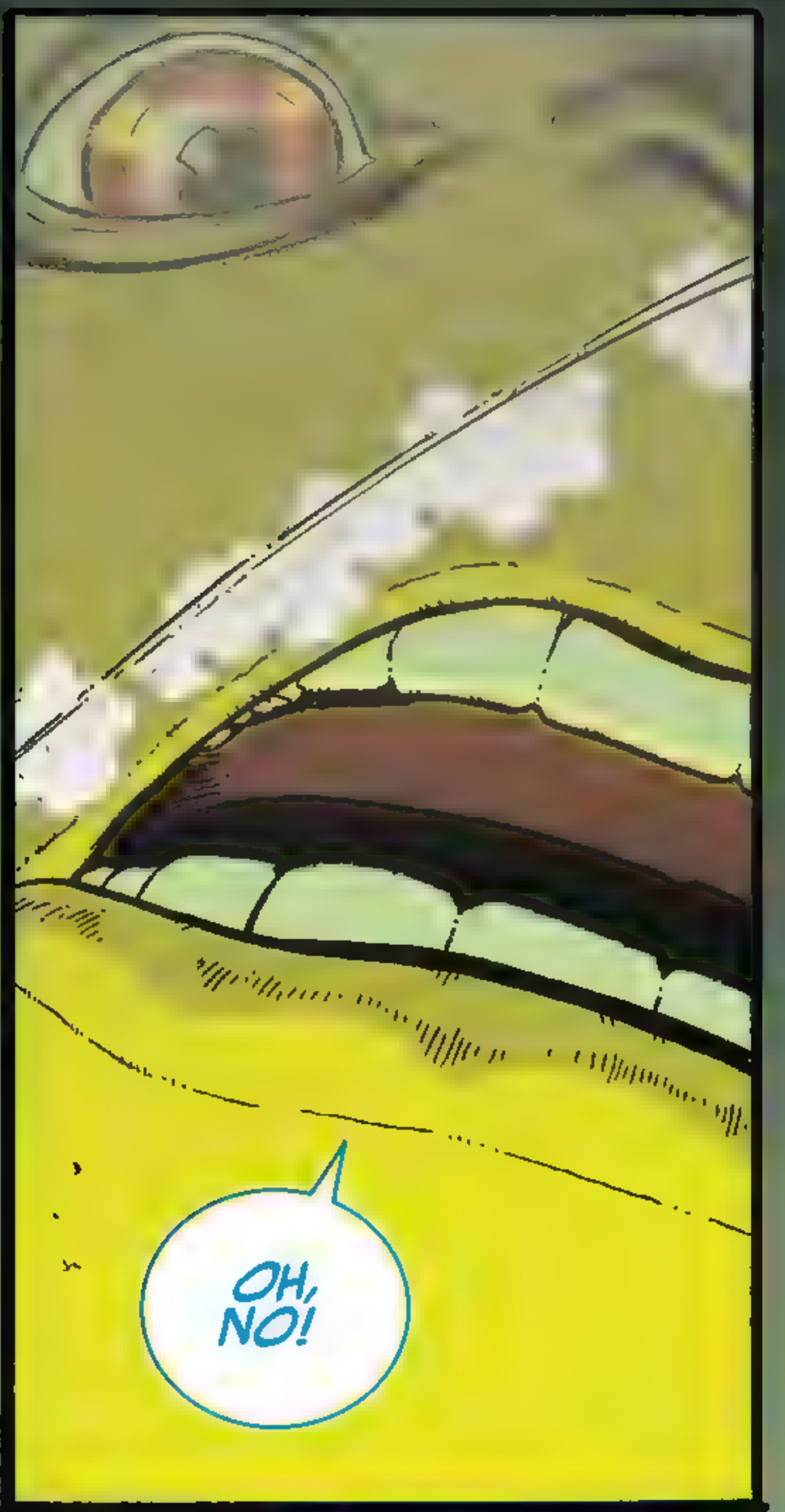
...THEY
ALMOST
LOOK LIKE THEY
HAVE HAD FACES
CARVED INTO
THEM.



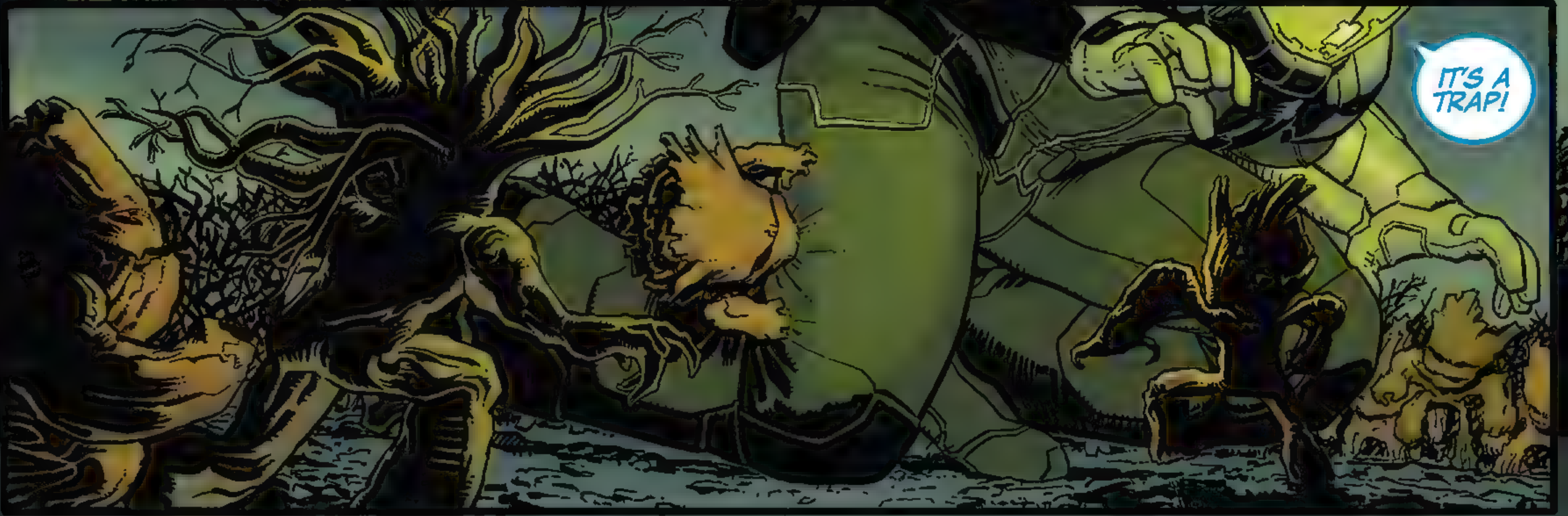
WELCOME!



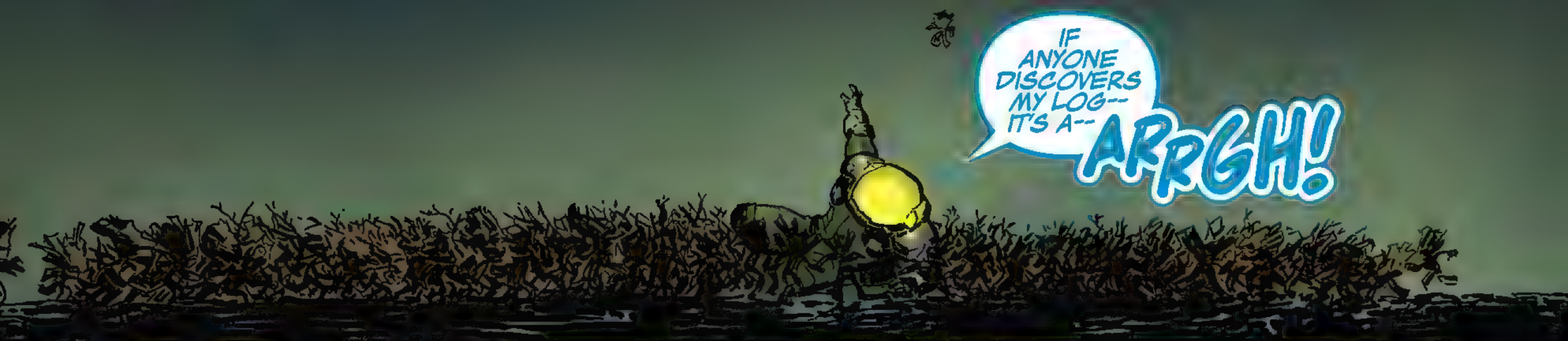
AH!



OH,
NO!



IT'S A
TRAP!



IF
ANYONE
DISCOVERS
MY LOG--
IT'S A--

ARRGH!



DAMN
YOU! >HUFF!
STOP!



**TO BE
CONTINUED...**

HELP US NAME OUR LETTER COLUMN!! GOT A SUGGESTION?
Let us know at GALACTIC@MARVEL.COM and mark "Okay to print"!

Send your letters to
GALACTIC@MARVEL.COM
and mark "Okay to print!"

Dear ALL-NEW GUARDIANS team,

First off let me just say: Holy. Crap.

That first issue (which I just reread for the third time in prep for FCBD before I wrote this) was the best GotG issue I've read in a while. When Gerry Duggan was announced as the writer for this series, I was totally on board with that since he had an amazing Cosmic run with NOVA (btw, I miss you writing NOVA, Gerry!).

I think the thing I love the most is that it's like Gerry read my younger sister's mind. A couple months ago, she came up to me and asked, "I know Groot can grow back if he's broken into splinters, but what happens if more than one piece is planted?" And I didn't really have an answer for her until now. I gave her the first issue and at the end she was like, "Oh wow!" Definitely made her day.

Looking forward to the next issues and also to Chris Samnee art! It's always a good day for Chris Samnee art.

Thank you for restoring my faith in Marvel Cosmic,
Robbie O'Bryan

Thanks for the kind words, Robbie. I'm glad your sister had one of those burning questions answered. Now that our issues are starting to roll off printers we can talk a bit about what's happening with Groot. We wanted to subvert the expectation that we had a small Groot simply to mirror the MCU. My job as custodian of these characters is to find ways to torture them. We're also excited for all our special guest star artists, Chris included.

Dear GotG Team,

I'm a young reader who fell in love with GotG when I saw the movie in 2015. I had heard of GotG but never took the time to read GotG before that. I then realized what I was missing out on.

I just want to say...AMAZING JOB ON ALL-NEW GOTG #1! I was laughing hysterically on every page once the Guardians stepped out of the Galactus ship. The Guardians are my favorite Marvel team and I can't wait till the next volume.

Thanks so much!
Carmen V.

Thanks for the kind words. Tell your friends to read comics, too. Keep up the great work!

P.S. The letters page should be called the "Wall of Guardians." Also, I loved the Booking.com ad on the first page.

That's why I do what I do, Carmen--the Booking.com ads. Cheers.

Hello, guys,

I have been a fan of the Guardians of the Galaxy since Jim Valentino's run in 1990. The thing that hooked me back then was the exploration aspect of it, seeing what was out there in the grander universe.

I'm glad you guys are going back into space because even all these years later, I know there is more and I want to see more. The teams might be different and the eras different (or even the reasons), but it doesn't mean the use of imagination as a reader has to be.

I enjoyed your first issue (and the Free Comic Book Day issue) and can't wait to see what happens next.

Oh, this reminds me...I also used to enjoy cliffhangers at the end, which you guys also have. I have no idea if that was by design but it certainly is a good nod.

One last thing, please don't shy away from including some of the 31st century Guardians in future issues and a time travel story or two. Just saying...I'm a huge Starhawk fan...

Armand Rock
Ottawa, Canada

Thanks for reading, Armand. I loved Jim's GotG, too. We're going into deep space, and you never know who or what we may return with...

Hello, team!

First of all I just want to say, "I love all of you!" The first issue of ALL-NEW GUARDIANS was a blast. Love the artwork, the baby universe was so cute! I wonder if a member of the MMMS can adopt it! I recently had a letter I submitted make it into the letters page of the UNWORTHY THOR #4! I sent it in after reading the first issue, then I forgot I sent it in! Imagine my surprise when I finished reading the fourth issue and saw my name! I loved the Grandmaster's costume! What else can I ask? Oh! You guys mentioned larger-than-life space gods--any chance of seeing some of my two favorite characters, The One Above All and The Living Tribunal? Also, you could name the letters page something like "COSMIC INQUIRIES" or "Dimensional Pitstop."

Sincerely,
Marshall Barton
Rhode Island
A true fan and lover of Marvel

You're the first and only person that thought what was happening to Groot courtesy of our mystery character was cute. That is remarkable. Your alignment is truly chaotic evil. You never know who will show up in the pages of our cosmic comic.

Heya, guys!

I've loved the Guardians for a while thanks to the movie, but never really read any of their stuff. So when I heard about this new book, I jumped on it. I have no regrets. A Galactus mech? That's one of the most original and funniest things I've seen in a comic for a while and I loved it! And I'm already intrigued by all these mysteries! Can't wait to find out what's up with Drax and those Groot plants!

One question, though: I've been following Nova for a while and the latest series' cancellation sucks. So I was wondering if there were any chance of Rich and Sam popping up for some cosmic adventures with the Guardians?

Great work on issue #1 and I can't wait to see what comes next!

Thanks from England,
Dan Sierwald

Thanks for writing, and yes.

What a great first issue! So many great moments: "Galactus" showing up, Rocket interrupting an intimate moment, and I'm curious to find out who that is on the last page. I'm really excited to see what crazy cosmic shenanigans the team is going to get up to. I'm personally hoping that my favorite human rocket will show up at some point. Keep it up!

Judau G

You're the best, Judau. Great name, too. Cheers.

Gerry

You're ALL the best! With just two issues on shelves, we're thrilled so many of you gallant Guardians fans have written in-- keep it up! How'd you like our first guest artist, the incredible Frazer Irving, on issue #3? Did regretful Groot on page 16 of this issue break your heart? WHAT should we name our letter column? ONLY YOU CAN...suggest. And we'll take your input under advisement.

Keep watching the stars!
Assistant Galactic Editor Kathleen

Next

ISSUE 005



ALSO FROM MARVEL'S
GALACTIC REALM...

ROCKET 003



I AM GROOT 002



ALL-NEW GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY ANNUAL



